

Serial No.: 10/800,226
Atty. Docket No.: D5292

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel tank assembly for a motor vehicle having a body, a body floor and a pair of parallel chassis frame rails supporting the body, the fuel tank assembly comprising:

a fuel tank supported between the frame rails under the body floor; and

a filler neck having an inlet on a side of the motor vehicle, the filler neck connecting the inlet to the fuel tank over one of the pair of parallel chassis frame rails and under the body floor adjacent the chassis frame rail, and the filler neck having a varying cross sectional profile from the inlet to the fuel tank a circular cross sectional profile adjacent the inlet, flattening to an oblong cross sectional shape without loss of cross sectional area where the filler neck passes over one of the frame rails to fit between the frame rail and floor and resuming a circular cross sectional shape adjacent the fuel tank.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended) The fuel tank assembly as claimed in claim 1, the filler neck having a greater cross sectional area adjacent the fuel tank than adjacent the inlet.

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5. (Currently amended) A motor vehicle comprising:

a chassis including a pair of spaced, parallel frame rails from front to rear of the vehicle;

a vehicle body having a floor supported from the pair of spaced, parallel frame rails leaving a spacing between the floor and the frame rails;

a fuel tank positioned between the pair of spaced, parallel frame rails; and

a filler neck having an inlet along a side of the motor vehicle, an outlet to the fuel tank and an intermediate section connecting the inlet to the outlet over one of the frame rails and below the floor, the intermediate section having a different cross sectional shape between the floor and the frame rail to fit between the frame rail and floor without loss of cross sectional area and with in the intermediate section than adjacent the inlet and outlet the cross sectional area of the filler neck increasing from the intermediate section to the outlet.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) The motor vehicle of claim 5 6, the filler neck further comprising:

a cross sectional area which increases ~~in steps from the portion of the filler neck adjacent~~ the inlet to the intermediate section.

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8. (Original) The motor vehicle of claim 7, the filler neck further comprising:

the portions of the filler neck adjacent the inlet and the outlet being circular.

9. (Original) The motor vehicle of claim 8, the filler neck further comprising:

the intermediate section of filler neck being oblong.